



NORTH WIND

Rejoicing in the Spirit ~ Celebrating Community

North Congregational Church New Hartford, CT 06057

July-August 2019

FROM YOUR DESIGNATED PASTOR

I am writing this several days before one of the first of a number of our Congregational Conversations following worship about the state and future of the church, so I will not be able to report on the things that were discussed. But if you were not able to be in attendance, I wanted to at least share with you my plans for for our time together.

I have prepared a four-page document that summarizes our current situation in regard to worship attendance and budget during the last 20 years, our physical assets and description of the possible choices the church might make as it plans for and lives into the future.

Several people have asked for my advice and I need you to know that not only do I not have any recommendations at this point in time, but it is not my place to have them. What I bring to the table are a series of questions and the ability to lead you through a number of respectful conversations.

I offer a sample of them here, especially to those of you who were not in church to receive the handout. Please know, however, that copies of the handout are available in the church office.

Here are just a few of the questions I have posed:

-What are the characteristics of a healthy, sustainable parish? How many of those characteristics do we possess?

-As we approach our 200th Anniversary in 2028, what is our purpose?

-Why is this congregation/church building here in New Hartford? What is God calling us to do at this time in our history?

-What is our theology/ interpretation of the teachings of Jesus? Are we Biblical literalists, do we emphasize sin and judgment, like many of the other congregations in town? Or are we more progressive?

-How important is this community of faith to you and why? Can you commit yourself to walking with your fellow church members during this important time of discernment?

My hope is that you will give prayerful thought to these questions during the summer and then come back in the fall, ready to discuss them.

I would also ask that if you are traveling out of town during the summer, you attend other churches for worship, simply of course to be in the company of fellow Christians on the Sabbath, but to observe their facilities, practices and programs, and share your impressions.

Here in New Hartford, as you can see in the summer worship schedule, we will be sharing several of our services with sister churches. Please make a special effort to be present for them.

Have a wonderful summer. See you in church, in worship and....of course....at the Peach Festival.

And, as always, don't hesitate to contact me in case of an emergency or hospitalization. It is important for me to be with you.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Marcia

cell: 860-965-9093

revmoxie3@gmail.com

DEACONS

From the Deacons . . .

A while back, I came across this saying painted on a board in a store selling handmade crafts: "Leave home for adventure; come home for love." I am reminded of that saying whenever I see folks returning to church after an adventurous trip. (And we have many members who enjoy travel; to Cuba, Ireland, Italy, and Africa, to name just a few destinations NCC members have visited!) It is just great to watch members connecting again with church family during the Passing of the Peace, and being welcomed back into our wonderful community. We all need a home base to return to, where we feel loved and supported, where we can rest up and re-charge until we're ready to take on the next challenges that life brings our way.

In a recent Upper Room entry, Veronica Kamidi of Kenya writes: "Some people say that they need not go to church anymore because they listen to sermons on TV or on the Internet. But this practice is no substitute for Christian fellowship. The TV won't comfort us through hard times, rejoice in our blessings, or keep us accountable. Our brothers and sisters in Christ will."

Admittedly, participating in a church community takes time and effort. But the rewards of creating and enjoying a safe haven amidst life's many challenges are tremendous! So whether you attend worship services regularly or rarely, be assured that you will be welcomed at NCC whenever you "come home for love".

Peace be with you -

Fran Herman

MISSIONS

Local level: Missions has enjoyed a very active Spring.

April 28 — Children's Chat. To celebrate Earth Week and Arbor Day, we explained the important job of planting trees as God's helpers. Back in February, Missions made a donation to the Arbor Day Foundation and in return received spruce saplings, which we gave to the children to plant in their own yards.

May 10 & 11 — Tag Sale & Rummage Sale. Much thanks to all Missions ladies and church members who worked for weeks to create a huge success (and have fun!). From sale of general items we earned over \$1600 for the General Fund. The rummage (clothing) sale added over \$400 to the Missions savings account. San Juan Center folks trucked away most of the unsold items for sale at their thrift shop. Consider: all this "junk" might have ended up in a landfill, but now it will be put to good use.

June 12 — We like to keep moving, so for this year's "retreat" we drove to downtown Hartford, where we toured the San Juan Center and their thrift shop to see for ourselves how our donations are used. SJC has just landed a huge grant from state and private sources to revitalize their entire city block. Their 1880s community center and adjoining apartment buildings will be restored, creating affordable living space and shops. They are also raising funds to buy a panel truck to replace their failing one.

From SJC we moved on to Elizabeth Park in West Hartford to wander through the gorgeous rose gardens, in all their June glory. Under a vine-covered gazebo, we discussed this year's requests for donations. Our day ended with a fine lunch at the Pond House.

(MISSIONS – continued)

Donations from Missions budget: New Hartford Ambulance (new ambulance), Susan B. Anthony Project, Simply Smiles (Cheyenne River Sioux), Back Bay Mission (UCC ministry in Biloxi, MS), Good Shepherd Church (UCC ministry to immigrants in Arizona), Living Water (ecumenical effort to supply clean water sources in developing countries), San Juan Center (new truck!).

Donations from Missions savings: new letters to replace old broken letters on our church swing signs, big mixing bowl for Peach Fest prep.

· Food Collection: Grocery bags are in the narthex, each with a list of items that the food banks need. Donations of late have been down but the need is always great. Please try to be generous! TBD: During July/August Missions is considering setting up our Food Donation Station for community donations, as we did last year...

State/National/International level: UCC special Sunday offerings continue.

Peace!

Donna Howard, Missions Co-chair

TRUSTEES

Web page:

The church webpage has been completely overhauled and has a new and cleaner look and feel. Check it out. The latest North Wind newsletters (<https://northchurchucc.com/newsletters/>) are online including this one. Anyone planning an event or wanting an article on our webpage please let me know. Colorful flyers and pictures are especially appreciated. Any pictures with children need parental approval.

Grounds:

The church grounds were cleared with help from the trustees and local Boy Scout troop led by Mark Perillo and Alesia Kennerson. Frank Owens removed a fallen tree from the backyard and the leaves were raked and removed. They all did a great job.

The Trustees will again take turns mowing the grass this summer.

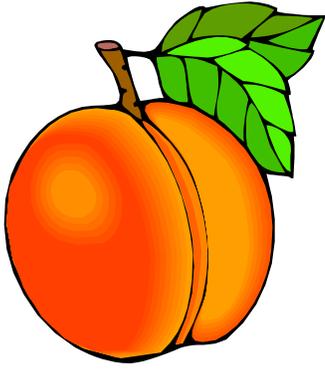
Buildings:

The Fellowship Hall door has been painted.

Office:

The trustees are looking into upgrading the office computer software.

David McCunn, Trustees



Official Peachy Job Posting

Wanted: Cheerful peach peelers to fill 200 or so pies for the stupendous, magnificent, awesome North Congregational Church Peach Fest.

Requirements: Must be 16 or older. If you can wield a paring knife, you're in!

Perks: Free steam heat, good company, yummy peach aromas . . .

When: Pie baking will begin in early August.

If you interested in signing up for one or more shifts, please contact Fran Herman at 860-379-0327 or franceshermanrd@hotmail.com.

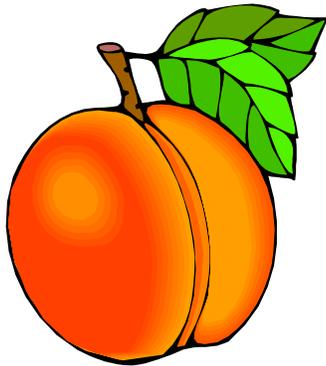
North Congregational Church, UCC

• 23rd Annual •

PEACH FEST & CRAFT FAIR

• Saturday, August 24 •

10 am to 4 pm



Pine Meadow Green

on Route 44

New Hartford

Feast on our Peach Shortcake!

Peach Pies to go!

Artisans & Crafts, Free

Admission & Parking

Vendors/Info: 860-379-2466

**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

All Services at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted

- JULY 7:** at **North Church**, no joint worship
- JULY 14:** at **North Church**, joined by United Congregational Church, Torrington.
Worship co-leaders/preachers: The Rev. Rhonda Myers and
The Rev. Marcia Lynn Cox
- JULY 21:** at **United Congregational Church**, 1622 Torrington Street (rte. 183),
Torrington.
Directions: From New Hartford, take Town Hill Road (rte. 219) south;
west/right onto 202; at 183, corner of Walmart, turn north/right onto
183, church on right.
Worship co-leaders/preachers: The Rev. Rhonda Myers and The Rev.
Marcia Lynn Cox
- JULY 28:** at **North Church**, no joint worship
- AUGUST 4:** at **North Church**, no joint worship
- AUGUST 11:** **10 a.m. With Riverton Congregational Church.** Outdoor service
“Down By the River,” at the park near the intersection of rte 20
and Robertsville Road. River access across from the Hitchcock
Chair Factory. There is limited parking at the river, so overflow
parking will be at the Hitchcock Chair Factory lot. Bring your
own chairs. In case of rain, at the Riverton Church.
Worship Co-leaders/preachers: The Rev. Ellen Petersen and
The Rev. Marcia Lynn Cox.
- AUGUST 18:** at **North Church**, no joint worship
- AUGUST 25:** at **North Church**, no joint worship



July Birthdays

Ben Pearson	11 th
Austin Ferguson	15 th
Matthew Fitzpatrick	23 rd
Emily Fitzpatrick	26 th
Dennis Phillips	27 th
Tom Goddu	30 th



August Birthdays

Jon Perillo	1 st
Graham Sullivan	3 rd
Joselyn Pearson	4 th
Ken Crooke	9 th
Tracy Noell	11 th
Remi Goddu	15 th
Nicholas Barbieri	18 th
Cele Hoffman	19 th
Sue Lachowicz	22 nd
Shirley McCunn	23 rd
Joan Egbertson	28 th
Deanna Barbieri	29 th

North Wind

North Congregational Church

17 Church St., North

PO Box 307

New Hartford, CT 06057

Worship.Church School Sundays 10:00 a.m.

Office Telephone: 860-379-2466

E-mail: northchurchucc@hotmail.com

Website: www.northchurchucc.com

Facebook:

North Congregational Church, New Hartford, CT

The Rev. Marcia Lynn Cox, Designated Pastor

Shirley McCunn, Organist & Director of Music

Suzanne Czerwinski, Secretary

Nicole Misko, Director of Children's Ministries

Dave Holcomb, Sexton

Office Notes: If you or your child's information is missing or incorrect in the Northwind Birthday lists, the church directory or the all church email, please let me know so the Information can be added or updated.

Please remember to mark upcoming church events and committee meetings on the calendar on the kitchen counter, or call or email the church with any information that needs to be in the bulletins, all church emails or the Northwind.

Thank you,

Suzanne Czerwinski, Church Secretary